RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
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Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENABLING CONTEXT AWARENESS IN A WIRELESS SYSTEM

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Original) A wireless device comprising:

at least one biometric sensor to obtain biometric information about a user presently holding said wireless device when said wireless device is being held;

a biometric authentication unit to determine, based on said biometric information, whether said user presently holding said wireless device is authorized to use said wireless device;

a wireless transceiver to support wireless communication with a remote entity; and

a controller to control operation of said wireless device, wherein said controller is programmed to change operational characteristics of said wireless device based on whether said wireless device is presently being held.

2.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein:

said controller is programmed to request access to a network, using said wireless transceiver, when said wireless device is being held and said biometric authentication unit indicates that said user presently holding said wireless device is authorized to use said wireless device.

3.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 2, wherein:

said controller includes information identifying said user presently holding said wireless device as part of said request.

4.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 2, wherein:

said controller includes biometric information obtained by said at least one biometric sensor as part of said request.

5.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 2, wherein:

said controller is programmed to prompt said user presently holding said wireless device when network access has been denied.

6.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein:

said controller is programmed to deactivate user functions of said wireless device when said wireless device is being held and said biometric authentication unit indicates that said user presently holding said wireless device is not authorized to use said wireless device.

7.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein:

said controller is programmed to place said wireless device in a power save mode when said wireless device is not being held.

8.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein:

said controller is programmed to place said wireless device in a normal power mode when said wireless device is being held.

9.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, further comprising:

a storage medium to store user profiles for multiple authorized users of said wireless device, wherein said controller loads a profile corresponding to said user presently holding said wireless device from said storage medium into a processor memory after said biometric authentication unit indicates that said user presently holding said wireless device is authorized to use said wireless device.

10.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein:

said controller is programmed to request access to a network for use in performing background functions, using said wireless transceiver, when said wireless device is not being held and when power is sufficient to perform said background functions.

11.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 10, wherein:

said controller is programmed to enable performance of background functions after network access has been obtained.

12.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, further comprising:

an accelerometer to monitor movement of said wireless device, wherein said controller is programmed to use readings of said accelerometer to determine whether said wireless device is currently being held.

13.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein:

said controller is programmed to use readings of said at least one biometric sensor to determine whether said wireless device is currently being held.

14.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 1, wherein:

said at least one biometric sensor includes at least one of the following: a fingerprint sensor, a skin temperature sensor, a skin texture sensor, a hand geometry sensor, a voice print sensor, and a heartbeat sensor.

15.   (Original) A method comprising:

sensing that a wireless device has been picked up by a user;

determining, after sensing that said wireless device has been picked up, whether said user is authorized to use said wireless device based on collected biometric information; and

when said user is determined to be authorized to use said wireless device, requesting access to a network via a wireless link.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

enabling a normal power mode of said wireless device after sensing and before determining.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

when said user is determined to not be authorized to use said wireless device, de-activating user functions of said wireless device.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

when said user is determined to be authorized to use said wireless device, loading a profile associated with said user into a processor memory.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

when access to said network has been granted, loading a profile associated with said user into a processor memory.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

when access to said network has been granted, allowing said user to perform network based functions.

21.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

when access to said network has been denied, prompting said user to indicate same.

22.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

when access to said network has been denied, allowing said user to perform local functions, but not network based functions.

23-45. (Canceled)

46.   (Original) An article comprising a storage medium having instructions stored thereon that, when executed by a computing platform, operate to:

sense that a wireless device has been picked up by a user;

determine, after sensing that said wireless device has been picked up, whether said user is authorized to use said wireless device based on collected biometric information; and

when said user is determined to be authorized to use said wireless device, request access to a network via a wireless link.

47.   (Original) The article of claim 46, wherein said storage medium further includes instructions that, when executed by the computing platform, operate to:

enable a normal power mode of said wireless device after sensing and before determining.

48.   (Original) The article of claim 46, wherein said storage medium further includes instructions that, when executed by the computing platform, operate to:

when said user is determined to not be authorized to use said wireless device, de-activate user functions of said wireless device.

49.   (Original) The article of claim 46, wherein said storage medium further includes instructions that, when executed by the computing platform, operate to:

when said user is determined to be authorized to use said wireless device, load a profile associated with said user into a processor memory.

50.   (Original) The article of claim 46, wherein said storage medium further includes instructions that, when executed by the computing platform, operate to:

when access to said network has been granted, load a profile associated with said user into a processor memory.

51-56.   (Canceled)

57.   (Original) A wireless device comprising:

at least one biometric sensor to obtain biometric information about a user presently holding said wireless device when said wireless device is being held;

a biometric authentication unit to determine, based on said biometric information, whether said user presently holding said wireless device is authorized to use said wireless device;

a wireless transceiver to support wireless communication with a remote entity;   a controller to control operation of said wireless device, wherein said controller is programmed to change operational characteristics of said wireless device based on whether said wireless device is presently being held; and

at least one dipole antenna coupled to said wireless transceiver to provide a transition to free space.

58.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 57, wherein:

said controller is programmed to request access to a network, using said wireless transceiver, when said wireless device is being held and said biometric authentication unit indicates that said user presently holding said wireless device is authorized to use said wireless device.

59.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 57, wherein:

said controller is programmed to place said wireless device in a power save mode when said wireless device is not being held.

60.   (Original) The wireless device of claim 57, wherein:

said controller is programmed to place said wireless device in a normal power mode when said wireless device is being held.